



In Collaboration with



**Directorate of Youth Affairs
Sports & Youth Affairs Department
Govt: Of Sindh**

Crisis Management

Syrian Crisis

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Crisis Committee

About Crisis Committee

A crisis committee is usually comprised of not more than twenty five members forming some form of cabinet, governing body, advisory board, business, league, Assembly or general stall to advise some head position, generally portrayed by the chair. In case of OIC the Crisis committee is not a permanent body. The council of Foreign Ministers may have the power to formulate any committee on ad-hoc basis. This temporary committee is designated to assess the pernicious matter and find a best possible solution with consent of all parties if involved in conflicting matter.

A crisis committee deals with both immediate and long-term crisis. The topics of the crisis committee vary from a historical event to present day but in most of the cases the committee usually have historical topics. This means that they are based upon events that has actually happened in the past, thus making it easier for delegates to understand one of the possible outcomes of the cabinet that are involved in.

Syrian Crisis

Syria has been up for a topsy-turvy ride since the beginning of 2011 or the so-called Arab Spring. The situation in Syria is volatile and getting worse day by day. Syrian civil war is an extraordinary shameful inaction of this 21 century causing regular deaths of innocent civilians and triggering massive displacement from different cities. The crisis that started from the widespread street protest with the idea to bring revolution against decades of authoritarian rule has now turned into a ground of battlefield. The conflict has clung the country with multiple identities other than any concrete national identity. People of the country is tied in the shackles of endemic animosity. Ethnic, racial, religious and sectarian

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differences have enormously widened and consequently fostering intolerance at the political stage. This endless restlessness in the country is creating a great humanitarian crisis. World War I effects are being eclipsed with the humanitarian crisis emerged during the Syrian conflict. “Homicide a quarter to a half million people, displacing more than half the population and creating one of the largest refugee crises since the Second World War” (Corstange & York, 2017, p. 7). This research material identifies the great human rights catastrophe emanated with this inimical conflict of the decade. The dynamics of the Syrian conflict is tangentially complex, it has resulted in a multifaceted crisis. The current status of the Syrian crisis can be analysed in the context of sectarianism, militarism, demographical change and foreign interventions. This research material is projected to critically examine some of those incendiary factors generated during the conflict or become the cause of the conflict.

Ethnic Division in the Country

Most of the scholars agree upon the point that civil wars are most often erupted on ethnic dimensions. Inter communal difference is the main paradigm found in most of the Arab countries. However ethno religious division not was primordial in case of Syria but it awaken the ethnicity. The clan based society of Syria revived their tribal and clan based identities during the ongoing civil conflict The crisis has brought the serious question of Kurdish population around its neighbouring countries, the OIC must have to find the solution to end the grievances of Kurdish population that constitute a “fourth largest population of Middle east” (Who are the Kurds?, 2017). For this the Syrian crisis is needs to be addressed urgently.

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Sectarianism

The worst effect of the Syrian conflict is the rising fissure in society. Since the beginning, the conflict was rendered as a sectarian one. However, there is a difference of opinion on this consideration. Arab Sunni constitutes the majority population of about 59% in Syria while the rest are Kurds, Alawites, and Christians. Since the time of Hafiz Al Asad, the majority of Sunnis in Syria were ruled by minority alliance of Alawi. Their differences was within the controllable limits, but the conflict awaken the sectarian-based identities of people. The early 2011 uprising was motivated with the idea of free and fair democracy against the decade's long despotism. Sectarian differences were not prominent during the protests. The protests were first raised in Sunni majority provinces while the minority group provinces with same economic degradation, did not take the way of streets. This factory quickly incited the sectarian identity (Balanche, 2018). Violence used against the protestors gave heed to sectarianism. Ultimately sectarianism was embedded with the penetration of extremist organization and militancy in the country. The militancy adopted a technique to target minorities. And so divided the nation on a Sunni led resistance and an Alawite regime supported by Shia.

This sectarianism allowed the regional powers to wage a proxy war in Syria. Through extensive study, it can be concluded that sectarianism is not responsible to accentuate the civil war but one of the worst consequences since the civil war began.

External Intervention

Foreign intervention and non-state interference in Syrian domestic affairs are complicating the paradox of Syrian conflict. The external intervention can be differentiated in three

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categories: the first international terrorist organizations that open the easy way for other regional and superpowers to interfere in Syria. Wealthy private so-called Islamic or jihadist organization in the Arabian Gulf region funded ISIL, the Nusra Front and the Islamic Front on the basis of religious fundamentalism. It is open fact that Sectarian interests against the Sunni fundamentalists, as well as traditional alliances, brought Iran and Hezbollah in support of the Syrian government. Similarly, the Sunni militancy in Syria tacitly receives Saudi's funding (Fighting, While Funding, Extremists, 2017). The regional powers and foreign powers gambit in Syria is evident to the world. Even the Regional powers are performing a Janus Faced role in the conflict and do not seem as to endeavoring for resolution. International powers are also looking ground for maintaining their hegemony in the region. The war is between the pro-Asad regime and against Asad regime. This division awakened the sleepy sectarianism and similarly widen the question of Kurdish separatism. (See, *Mediterranean affairs*, 2014). Most of the commentators agreed that "Foreign intervention has protracted the clash by extending the predetermined competencies of the direct actors, leading to a proxy war which seems difficult to conclude in any decisive victory for one side over the other" (Rinne, 2018)

There is a general perception that sectarianism is the main reason in prolonging the Syrian Crisis. Whereas the foreign meddling in the Syrian crisis is instrumental in delaying the peace since these interventions are not sincerely motivated to drag the country out of chaos. The OIC has this toughest nut to crack, which can only be done with united Ummah effort. The matter must be needed to be solved within OIC so the foreign state meddling and non-state actor's tumultuous role in the region as a whole could curb.

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Humanitarian crisis in Syria:

The ongoing Syrian conflict has resulted in the worst humanitarian and refugee crisis of the 21st century. Millions of people including women, children, and the elderly have either been killed or forced to flee their homes.

People are struggling to just survive, access to basic necessities and aid is almost impossible. Millions of Syrians are risking their lives by fleeing their country and embarking on a tortuous journey to Europe, hoping to find a place to live and to survive. Today countless people in the country need humanitarian aid and assistance. Healthcare centers, hospitals, schools, and marketplaces have been either reduced to rubble or are barely functional. Syria is utterly devastated by the ongoing civil war. Since the uprising began horrific war crimes and crimes against humanity have been committed by not just the rebel forces but also the Syrian government. Both sides in the conflict are responsible for killing and torturing captives, and both have also killed civilians by the indiscriminate use of weapons.

In this ongoing tussle between the government troops and the rebel forces has destroyed almost everything. People have been stripped of their rights, lives, home, and loved ones. The ongoing battle has resulted in the massive destruction of basic infrastructure systems including systems providing water and electricity.

Refugee's crisis:

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Almost half of the population of Syria has been driven out of their homes due to the prolonged conflict. The ongoing crisis in Syria have resulted in the displacement of 6.6 million people internally, and over 5 million across international borders.

‘Every day around 5000 people, mainly women and children, flee their homes in Syria. With no end to the conflict in sight, these numbers will increase. This is the worst humanitarian crisis of our lifetime and the international community cannot continue to turn its back on Syria’s refugees.’ **Amnesty International**

The displacement of local population within the country is another major issue created due to the ongoing conflict. Every form of aid and assistance must be provided to the refugees and the internally displaced people. Many Muslim states have shut their doors to these war torn people, the Muslim Nations must realise that these people need their immediate attention and help.

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